



LABORATORY FOR ENERGY-RELATED HEALTH RESEARCH

Davis, Yolo County, California

Office: Oakland Operations Office

Size: 15 acres (0.02 square mile)

NPL Status: Placed on NPL on May 31, 1994.

Docket Status: Final

Mission: The Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research (LEHR) facility consists of several DOE-owned buildings located on property leased from the University of California, Davis (UCD). LEHR was established in 1958 by the Atomic Energy Commission to conduct research of health effects on dogs exposed to bone-seeking radionuclides. Full-scale experimental use of radioactive materials, including strontium-90 and radium-226, began at the LEHR site in 1960. Between the 1940s and 1967, approximately 6 acres of the site were independently operated by UCD as a sanitary landfill and low-level radioactive waste disposal area. Routine laboratory and university refuse, including chemical waste, was disposed of at this site. DOE is considered a potentially responsible party for LEHR.

Overview of Environmental

Conditions: The contaminants are primarily strontium-90 and radium-226 in buildings and tanks and organics, radionuclides, and trace metals in soil and groundwater. Tritium has also been detected.

CERCLA/RCRA Remediation Funding in FY 98: \$5,580,000

Progress in Reaching Interagency Agreement

In 1988, DOE terminated the research program and in 1989 signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with UCD to begin cleanup of the site. This MOA was amended in 1993 to limit DOE involvement in areas that were the University's responsibility to characterization activities only. DOE, EPA Region IX, and the State of California are currently negotiating an FFA for cleanup of LEHR. This agreement is expected to be signed in FY 99. In June 1997, DOE and University of California, Davis, signed a MOA delineating each party's responsibilities for cleanup. Under this agreement DOE is responsible for four areas: 1) Southwest Trenches; 2) Radium/ Strontium (Ra/Sr) Treatment System Areas; 3) Western Dog Pens; and 4) Domestic Septic System Areas.

Specific Cost Estimates and Budgetary Proposals Involved in Each Interagency Agreement

Funds budgeted for environmental restoration activities at LEHR total \$3.0 million of appropriated funds for FY 99, and \$3.0 million for FY 00, according to the request in the President's Budget.

Public Comments Regarding Interagency Agreements

The IAG as noted above is expected to be complete during FY 99.

Progress in Conducting Remedial Investigations/ Feasibility Studies

The RI/FS activities for all areas where DOE is responsible were conducted. Risk-based action standards were developed for the areas for which DOE is responsible. These standards will determine cleanup

goals for the response actions. DOE continues to conduct CERCLA investigations and response actions on soil and groundwater.

Progress in Conducting Remedial Actions

In FY 98, contaminated soil was removed from the Southwest Trenches as a removal action. This response action is scheduled to be completed in FY 99. Additional removal actions are planned for FY 99.